

*Stated Meeting, March 17, 1882.*

Present, 10 members.

President, Mr. FRALEY, in the Chair.

The death of Dr. Joseph Pancoast, March 7th, 1882, æt. 77, was announced by Mr. Eli K. Price. On motion Prof. Samuel D. Gross was requested to prepare an obituary notice.

Letters of acknowledgment were received from the *Astronomische Gesellschaft*, Leipsig (108), Free Public Library, New Bedford (109), and the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia (109).

A letter was received from the Kaiserliche Universitäts-und Landes-Bibliothek, Strassburg, dated Feb. 16, 1882. The matter was referred to the Secretaries with power to act.

Donations for the Library were received from F. Sandberger; *Zoologische Anzeiger*, Leipsig; R. *Accademia dei Lincei*, Rome; *Academie Royale*, Bruxelles; *Société de Géographie*, and *Revue Politique*, Paris; *Société de Géographie Commerciale*, Bordeaux; *Royal Astronomical Society and Nature*, London; M. E. Wadsworth, Boston; *Essex Institute*, Salem; *Journal of Banking Law*; *Pennsylvania Historical Society*, Franklin Institute, *Journal of Pharmacy*, The American, Philadelphia; *New Jersey State Geological Survey*; *American Chemical Journal*; U. S. Signal Service Bureau, Washington; *Historical Society of Wisconsin*; *Mercantile Library Association*, San Francisco; *Illinois State Museum of Natural History*, and Prof. Lesquereaux, Columbus.

The President reported that he had requested Dr. Ruschenberger to prepare an obituary notice of Dr. Bridges, and Dr. Rothrock one of Thos. P. James, and that they had accepted the appointment.

Prof. Sadtler read a paper by Prof. Edgar F. Smith, and N. Wiley Thomas, on Corundum and Wavellite from localities as yet unknown to mineralogists, about six or eight miles from Allentown, Pa.

Mr. Phillips made a communication in reference to the

progress of the New Dictionary of the English Language, now progressing under the auspices of the Philological Society.

Pending nominations Nos. 835, 951 to 956, and new nominations Nos. 957 and 958 were read.

The resignation of the Rev. Samuel Longfellow, of Germantown, Pa., was presented to the Society, and on motion accepted.

And the meeting was adjourned.

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*Corundum and Wavellite. By Edgar F. Smith and N. Wiley Thomas.*

*(Read before the American Philosophical Society, March 17, 1882.)*

Specimens of these minerals from localities, as yet perhaps unknown to mineralogists, came under our examination some time ago, and thinking that a description of them might not be without some interest to specialists, we submit the following :

1. Early in January last, a piece of what was once a large hexagonal prism of corundum terminated by pyramids, was handed us. The specimen we received was an end piece exhibiting a perfect hexagonal form, with pyramidal ending, and on the broken surface of the crystal, the color observed was blue. The weight of this specimen is five pounds. The original complete crystal measured eight inches in length, and the diameter over the secondary axes is about four and one half inches. On the exterior surface are observable here and there, magnetite crystals and these were the cause of the destruction of the original crystal soon after it had been ploughed up. The farmer thinking he had made a valuable discovery and curious to know the appearance of the inside, broke the crystal into several pieces, one of these coming into our possession, after it had been carried about to various parties, for inspection and determination. Only very slight indications of any alteration are apparent on the exterior of the crystal. Soon after getting the above, we received another crystal—a double pyramid—about five and one-half inches long and weighing over five pounds. Since the reception of the preceding, we obtained several cigar boxes full of smaller, well-defined crystals. All of our specimens were found near Shimersville, Lehigh Co., Pa., and were thrown out while plowing. The district over which these crystals were scattered, and have been noticed, is rather extensive and is already under lease, and “prospecting” for larger quantities has been commenced. Quite a number of medium sized crystals were sent to the Weissport Emery Works,